

THE APOSTLES

CD 1

PART I

1. PROLOGUE.

Chorus and Orchestra

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because He hath anointed me to preach the Gospel to the poor:
He hath sent me to heal the broken-hearted,
to preach deliverance to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,—
to preach the acceptable year of the Lord,
To give unto them that mourn a garland for ashes,
the oil of joy for mourning,
the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness;
That they might be called trees of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, that He might be glorified.
For as the earth bringeth forth her bud,
and as the garden causeth the things that
are sown in it to spring forth;
So the Lord God will cause righteousness and
praise to spring forth before all the nations.
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because He hath anointed me to preach the Gospel.

2. THE CALLING OF THE APOSTLES.

Recit. (Tenor).

And it came to pass in those days that Jesus
went out into a mountain to pray,
and continued all night in prayer to God.

(Orchestra)

The Angel Gabriel.

The voice of Thy watchman!
The Lord returneth to Zion,—
break forth into joy,
sing together ye waste places of Jerusalem :
for the Lord hath comforted His people

(Orchestra)

The Angel.

“Behold My servant, Whom I have chosen;
My beloved, in Whom My soul is well pleased:
He shall not strive, nor cry aloud:
neither shall anyone hear His voice in the streets:
a bruised reed shall He not break,
the dimly burning wick shall He not quench,
and in His name shall the Gentiles hope.”
The voice of Thy watchman!

THE DAWN.

Shofar (*distant*).

The Watchers (on the Temple roof).
It shines!

(*Clang of the Gates.*—Shofar)

The face of all the East is now ablaze with light,
the Dawn reacheth even unto Hebron!

The Singers (within the Temple)

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord,
and to sing praises unto Thy name, O Most High:
To shew forth Thy lovingkindness in the morning,
and Thy faithfulness every night,
Upon the psaltery; upon the harp with a solemn sound.
For Thou, Lord, hast made me glad through Thy work:
I will triumph in the works of Thy hands.
For, lo, Thine enemies, O Lord, shall perish:
all the workers of iniquity shall be scattered.

The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree:
he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

(Shofar and Orchestra)

Recit. (Tenor)

And when it was day, He called unto Him
His disciples: and of them He chose twelve,
whom also He named Apostles,
that they should be with Him, and that
He might send them forth to preach.

CHORUS

The Lord hath chosen them
to stand before Him, to serve Him.
He hath chosen the weak to confound the mighty;
He will direct their work in truth.
Behold! God exalteth by His power,
who teacheth like Him?
The meek will He guide in judgment,
and the meek will He teach His way.
He will direct their work in truth,
for out of Zion shall go forth the law.

John, Peter, and Judas.

We are the servants of the Lord.

Peter.

Thou wilt shew us the path of life ;
in Thy light shall we see light.
Let Thy work appear unto Thy servants.

John.

O blessed are they which love Thee,
for they shall rejoice in Thy peace:
and shall be filled with the law.

Judas.

We shall eat of the riches of the Gentiles,
and in their glory shall we boast ourselves.

John, Peter, and Judas.

For out of Zion shall go forth the law,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

Chorus.

The Lord hath chosen them,
they shall be named the Priests of the Lord,
men shall call them the Ministers of our God.

John.

O blessed are they which love Thee.

Peter.

In Thy light shall we see light.

Judas.

God exalteth by His power.

Chorus.

He will direct their work;
they are the servants of the Lord.

The Angel and Chorus.

Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice;
with the voice together shall they sing:
for they shall see eye to eye,
when the Lord shall bring again Zion.

John, Peter, and Judas.

Come ye, and let us walk in the light of the Lord.

Jesus.

Behold, I send you forth.
He that receiveth you, receiveth Me;
and he that receiveth Me,
receiveth Him that sent Me.

John, Peter, and Judas.

We are the servants of the Lord.

The Angel.

Look down from heaven, O God,
and behold, and visit this vine.

Chorus.

Amen.

3. BY THE WAYSIDE.

Jesus.

Blessed are the poor in spirit:
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Mary (The Blessed Virgin), John, and Peter.
He setteth the poor on high from affliction :

Judas.

He poureth contempt upon princes.

Jesus.

Blessed are they that mourn:
for they shall be comforted.

John.

The Lord shall give them rest from their sorrow,

Peter.

and will turn their mourning into joy,

Mary and John.

and will comfort them :—

Women.

Weeping may endure for a night,

Men.

but joy cometh in the morning.

Jesus.

Blessed are the meek:
for they shall inherit the earth.

The People.

The meek also shall increase their joy—

Mary, John, and Peter:

in the Lord;

The People.

and the poor among men shall rejoice—

Mary, John, and Peter:

in the Holy One of Israel.

Jesus.

Blessed are they which do hunger and
thirst after righteousness:
for they shall be filled.

Mary, John, Peter, and Judas.

Mercy and truth are met together:
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

The People.

Sow to yourselves in righteousness,—

Jesus.

Blessed are the merciful:
for they shall obtain mercy.

The People.

Reap in mercy.

Mary, John, and Peter:

He that hath mercy on the poor, happy is he.

Judas.

The poor is hated even of his own neighbour:
the rich hath many friends.

The People.

Draw out thy soul to the hungry,

John.

and satisfy the afflicted soul;

Peter.

then shall thy light rise in obscurity.

Jesus.

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Mary.

Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil.

John.

Blessed are the undefiled.

Peter.

Who can say, I have made my heart clean?

Judas.

The stars are not pure in his sight,

The People.

how much less man.

Jesus.

Blessed are the peacemakers:
for they shall be called the children of God.

The People.

The work of righteousness shall be peace.

Jesus.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake:

for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Rejoice, and be exceeding glad ;
for great is your reward in heaven:
for so persecuted they the prophets which
were before you.

Soli and Chorus

Blessed are they which have been sorrowful for all Thy scourges,
for they shall rejoice for Thee,
when they have seen all Thy glory,
and shall be glad for ever.

4. BY THE SEA OF GALILEE.

Recit. (Tenor).

And straightway Jesus constrained His
disciples to get into a ship,
and to go before Him unto the other side:
and He went up into a mountain to pray:
and when the evening was come, He was there alone.
And His disciples went over the sea toward Capernaum.

IN THE TOWER OF MAGDALA.

Mary Magdalene.

O Lord Almighty, God of Israel, the soul in
anguish, the troubled spirit, crieth unto Thee.
Hear and have mercy; for Thou art merciful:
have pity upon me, because I have sinned before Thee.
Hear the voice of the forlorn, and deliver me out of my fear.
Help me, desolate woman, which have no helper but Thee :
Woe is me! for I am as when they have
gathered the summer fruits—
as the grape-gleanings of the vintage.
Have pity upon me, because I have sinned before Thee.
My tears run down like a river day and night.
Whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not
from them, I withheld not my heart from any joy.

Chorus (Fantasy).

Let us fill ourselves with costly wine and ointments,
and let no flower of the spring pass by us.
Let us crown ourselves with rosebuds before they be withered.

Mary Magdalene.

“Ye that kindle a fire, walk in the flame of your fire,
and among the brands that ye have kindled.
This shall ye have of Mine hand; ye shall lie down in sorrow.”
The mirth of tabrets ceaseth;
the noise of them that rejoice endeth,—
our dance is turned into mourning.
“This shall ye have of Mine hand; ye shall
lie down in sorrow.”

(There arose a great tempest in the sea.)

Mary Magdalene.

Is Thy wrath against the sea?
The voice of Thy thunder is in the heavens!
Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of Thy cataracts.
I see a ship in the midst of the sea, distressed with waves:
and One cometh unto it, walking on the sea!
... and they that are in the ship, toiling in rowing,
are troubled and cry out for fear.

The Apostles (in the ship).

It is a spirit!

Jesus.

Be of good cheer; It is I, be not afraid.

Peter.

Lord, if it be Thou, bid me come unto Thee upon the waters.

Jesus.

Come!

The Apostles.

He walketh on the waters,

Judas.

Fearfulness and trembling are come upon him,
and an horrible dread hath overwhelmed him.

Peter.

‘Lord, save me; I perish!

Mary Magdalene.

He stretcheth forth His hand.

Jesus.

O thou of little faith; wherefore didst thou doubt?

Mary Magdalene.

The wind ceaseth, and they worship Him.

The Apostles.

Of a truth Thou art the Son of God.

Peter, John, and Judas.

The Lord hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm.

Mary Magdalene.

Who stilleth the raging of the sea,—

Who maketh the storm a calm?

Thy providence, O Father, governeth it:

for Thou hast made a way in the sea,

and a safe path in the waves:

shewing that Thou canst save from all danger.

Thy face, Lord, will I seek.

Thou hast not forsaken them that seek Thee.

My soul followeth hard after Thee:

Thy right hand upholdeth me.

IN CAESAREA PHILIPPI.

Recit. (Tenor).

When Jesus came into the parts of Caesarea Philippi,
He asked His disciples, saying:

Jesus.

Whom do men say that I, the Son of man, am?

The Apostles.

Some say John the Baptist; some, Elias; and
others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.

Jesus.

Bat whom say ye that I am?

Peter.

Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

Jesus.

Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-Jona:
for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee,
but My Father Which is in heaven.
Thou art Peter,—
and upon this rock I will build My church ;
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Soli and Chorus,

Proclaim unto them that dwell on the earth,
and unto every nation, and kindred, and tongue,
the everlasting Gospel.

Jesus.

And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven:
and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven:
and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

IN CAPERNAUM.

Mary Magdalene.

Thy face, Lord, will I seek;
my soul followeth hard after Thee;

help me, desolate woman.

Mary.

Hearken, O daughter :—
When thou art in tribulation,
if thou turn to the Lord thy God,
and shall be obedient unto His voice,
He will not forsake thee.
Hearken, O daughter ;—
Come thou, for there is peace to thee.

Recit. (Tenor).

She stood at His feet weeping, and began to
wash His feet with tears,
and did wipe them with the hairs of her head,
and kissed His feet, and anointed them with the ointment.

Chorus (Women).

This man, if he were a prophet, would have
known who and what manner of woman
this is that toucheth him: for she is a sinner.

Mary Magdalene.

Hide not Thy face far from me:
put not Thy servant away in anger.

Jesus.

Thy sins are forgiven; thy faith hath saved thee;—
Go in peace.

SOLI AND CHORUS.

Turn you to the stronghold, ye prisoners of hope.
To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses,
though we have rebelled against Him ;
Turn you to the stronghold, ye prisoners of hope.
The fear of the Lord is a crown of wisdom,
making peace and perfect health to flourish ;
both which are the gifts of God:
and it enlargeth their rejoicing that love Him.
Turn you to the stronghold, ye prisoners of hope.

Thou art a God of the afflicted,
Thou art an helper of the oppressed,
Thou art an upholder of the weak,
Thou art a protector of the forlorn,
A Saviour of them that are without hope.
Turn you to the stronghold, ye prisoners of hope.
Blessed is he who is not fallen from his hope in the Lord.
For He will forgive their iniquity,
and He will remember their sin no more.

End of Part I.

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PART II.

1. INTRODUCTION

2. THE BETRAYAL.

Recit. (Tenor).

And it came to pass that He went throughout
every city and village,
preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God:
and the Twelve were with Him;

And He began to teach them, that the Son of
man must suffer many things, and be rejected, and be killed.

Chorus.

“I will smite the Shepherd, and the sheep of
the flock shall be scattered abroad.”

Peter.

Be it far from Thee, Lord, this shall never be unto Thee.
Though all men shall be offended because of Thee,
yet will I never be offended.

The Apostles.

Though we should die with Thee, yet will we not deny Thee.

Choral Recit. (Tenors and Basses).

Then gathered the chief Priests and Pharisees a council, and said :—

“What do we? For this Man doeth many miracles.”

So from that day forth they took counsel that
they might put Him to death.

Then entered Satan into Judas, and he went his way,
and communed with the chief Priests and Captains.

Judas

What are ye willing to give me, and I will deliver Him unto you?

Chorus (Tenors and Basses).

And they weighed unto him thirty pieces of silver.

Judas then, having received a band of men and officers,
cometh with lanterns and torches and weapons.

Judas.

Let Him make speed, and hasten His work,

that we may see it; He shall bear the glory,

and shall sit and rule upon His throne,

the great King,—the Lord of the whole earth.

Whomsoever I shall kiss, that same is He hold Him fast.

IN GETHSEMANE

Judas.

Hail, Master!

Jesus.

Whom seek ye?

The People.

Jesus of Nazareth.

Jesus.

I am He:

if therefore ye seek Me, let these go their way.

Recit. (Contralto).

And they all forsook Him and fled;

but Peter followed Him afar off, to see the end.

Choral Recit. (Tenors and Basses).

And they that had laid hands on Jesus,
led Him away to the High Priest.

IN THE PALACE OF THE HIGH PRIEST.

Servants.

Thou also wast with Jesus of Nazareth ;
this man was also with Him.

Peter.

I know not what thou sayest.

Servants.

Art not thou also one of His disciples?

Peter.

As thy soul liveth, I am not.

Servants.

Did not we see thee in the garden with Him?
Surely thou also art one of them.

Peter.

I swear by the Lord, I know not this Man of Whom ye speak.

Recit. (Contralto).

Then led they Jesus unto the hall of judgment.

Chorus. (Sopranos and Contraltos).

And the Lord turned and looked upon Peter,
and he went out. and wept bitterly.

Recit. (Contralto).

Then Judas, which had betrayed Him,
when he saw that He was condemned,
repented himself, and brought again the thirty
pieces of silver to the chief Priests and Elders.

THE TEMPLE.

The Singers (within the Temple).

Lord God, to Whom vengeance belongeth,
lift up Thyself, Thou Judge of the earth.
O Lord God, to Whom vengeance belongeth,
render a reward to the proud.
Lord, how long shall the wicked,
how long shall the wicked triumph?

Judas.

My punishment is greater than I can bear.

The Singers.

How long shall they utter and speak hard things?
and all the workers of iniquity boast themselves?
They break in pieces Thy people, O Lord,
and afflict Thine heritage.

Judas.

Mine iniquity is greater than can be forgiven.

The Priests.

A voice of trembling,—of fear,
Why art thou so grieved in thy mind?

Judas,

I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood.

The Priests.

What is that to us? See thou to that.

Judas.

I have sinned,—I have betrayed the innocent—

The Priests.

Selah!

Recit. (Contalto).

And he cast down the pieces of silver and departed.

The Singers.

Lord, how long shall the wicked triumph?
Yet they say, The Lord shall not see;
He that planted the ear, shall He not hear?
He that formed the eye, shall He not see?

Judas (without the Temple).

Whither shall I go from Thy Spirit?
Or whither shall I flee from Thy presence?
If I say, Peradventure the darkness shall cover me,
then shall my night be turned to day;—
yea, the darkness is no darkness with Thee,
but the night is as clear as the day.
Sheol is naked before Thee,
and Abaddon hath no covering.

The Singers (within the Temple).

Blessed is the man whom Thou chastenest,
that Thou mayest give him rest from the days of adversity,—

Judas.

“Rest from the days of adversity,”—
Never man spake like this Man;
He satisfied the longing soul,
and filled the hungry soul with goodness.

The Singers.

—until the pit be digged for the wicked.

Judas.

Our life is short and tedious,
and in the death of a man there is no remedy;
neither was there any man known to have returned
from the grave.
For we are born at all adventure,
and we shall be hereafter as though we had never been;
for the breath in our nostrils is as smoke,

and a little spark in the moving of our heart,
which being extinguished, our body shall be
turned into ashes, and our spirit shall vanish as the soft air,
and our name shall be forgotten in time,
and no man have our work in remembrance;
and our life shall pass away as the trace of a cloud,
and shall be dispersed as a mist,
that is driven away with the beams of the sun,
and overcome with the heat thereof.

The Singers.

The Lord knoweth the thoughts of man, that they are vanity.

Judas.

“The Lord knoweth the thoughts of man,”—
My hope is like dust that is blown away with the wind;
it is not possible to escape Thine hand,—
a sudden fear, and not looked for, comes upon me.

The People (remote).

Crucify Him!

Judas.

They gather themselves together and condemn the innocent blood.

The People.

Crucify Him!

Judas.

Mine end is come,—the measure of my covetousness ;
over me is spread an heavy night,
an image of that darkness which shall afterward receive me:
yet am I unto myself more grievous than the darkness.

The Singers (within the Temple).

He shall bring upon them their own iniquity.

3. GOLGOTHA.

Chorus.

Truly this was the Son of God.

Mary.

The sword hath pierced through mine own soul.

Mary and John.

Thou hast trodden the winepress alone,
and of Thy people there was none with Thee.
They shall look upon Him Whom they have pierced,
and they shall mourn for Him,
as one mourneth for his only son,
And shall be in bitterness for Him,
as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.

Mary.

The sword hath pierced through mine own soul.

4. AT THE SEPULCHRE.

Recit. (Contralto).

And very early in the morning they came unto
the sepulchre at the rising of the sun;
and they entered in, and found not the body of the Lord Jesus.

The Watchers (on the Temple roof).

The face of all the East is now ablaze with light;
the Dawn reacheth even unto Hebron!

Chorus (Angels) (Sopranos and Contraltos).

Alleluia!

Why seek ye the living among the dead?

He is not here, but is risen.

Behold the place where they laid Him.

Go, tell His disciples and Peter that He goeth before you into Galilee:
there shall ye see Him, as He said unto you.

Alleluia!

5. THE ASCENSION.

The Apostles.

We trusted that it had been He which should have redeemed Israel.

Jesus.

Peace be unto you.

Behold, I send the promise of My Father upon you:
but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem,
until ye be endued with power from on high.

The Apostles.

Lord, wilt Thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

Jesus.

It is not for you to know the times or the seasons,
which the Father hath put in His own power.
But ye shall receive power,
when the Holy Ghost is come upon you.
Go ye therefore, and teach all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost;
and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.

Recit. (Contralto).

And when He had spoken these things—
while He blessed them—He was taken up;
and a cloud received Him out of their sight;
and they looked stedfastly toward heaven.

The Apostles.

Give us one heart, and one way:
in Thy light shall we see light ;
Thou wilt shew us the path of life.

Mystic Chorus. (In Heaven.)

Alleluia!

Mary, Mary Magdalene, John, and Peter.

Give us one heart, and one way.

Mary.

My soul doth magnify the Lord:
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

Mary Magdalene.

Thou drewest near in the day that I called upon Thee:
Thou saidst, Fear not.

Peter.

For He hath not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted;
neither hath He hid His face from him ;

The Apostles and the Holy Women.

but when he cried unto Him, He heard.

Mystic Chorus.

Alleluia!

*“Holy Father, keep through Thine own
name those whom Thou hast given Me,
that they may be one, as We are.”*

The Apostles and the Holy Women.

All the ends of the world shall remember and turn unto the Lord:
and all the kindreds of the nations shall worship before Thee.
for the kingdom is the Lord's:
and He is the Governor among the nations.

Mystic Chorus.

Alleluia!

*“I have done Thy commandment.
I have finished the work which Thou gavest Me to do;
I laid down My life for the sheep.”*

The Apostles.

“In the world ye shall have tribulation :
but be of good cheer: I have overcome the world.”

Mystic Chorus.

“What are these wounds in Thine hands?”

“Those with which I was wounded in the house of My friends.”

They platted a crown of thorns, and put it about His head,—
they mocked Him,—
they spat upon Him,—
they smote Him with a reed,—
they crucified Him.
Alleluia!

The Apostles and the Holy Women.

They shall come, and shall declare His righteousness
unto a people that shall be born,
that He hath done this.

Mystic Chorus.

*“Now I am no more in the world,
but these are in the world, and I come to Thee.”*

The Apostles and the Holy Women.

The kingdom is the Lord's:
and He is the Governor among the nations.

Mystic Chorus.

From henceforth shall the Son of man be
seated at the right hand of the power of God.

Mary, Mary Magdalene, John, and Peter.

In His love and in His pity He redeemed them.

Tutti.

Alleluia!